

EPSU General Circular Nr 23 (2020)

To all Affiliated unions

Ref: JWG/PSC/cb  
Contact Person: Pablo Sanchez Centellas

Brussels, 21 October 2020

**European Health Action week**

Dear Colleagues,

EPSU is calling for a week of action from October 26 to October 30 on health and social care. Many unions will join.

The high point will be the action day 29 October. We ask for your assistance in supporting the health and care workers.

Please find out how.

The action week was decided by the EPSU standing committee health and social services. Many unions have already organized actions and activities. 29 October is also a global day of action supported by the Global Union Federations, including PSI and the ITUC

The main demands are to be found [here](#).

Fighting for health and care beyond the pandemic. This means:

- Higher pay and better conditions
- Safe staffing
- A focus on Quality care

We reject austerity measures like the cut in the EU4Health programme from 9.4 billion to 1.7 billion. We demand public funding for our public health and social care systems after the years of austerity. The struggle is symbolic for all public services workers who are under the same pressures and strain.

With the increase of infections across Europe, and more and more COVID19 patients in hospitals and intensive care, health and care staff seek your solidarity. Many are exhausted from long work hours working under stress for very long periods. Your engagement will send a message of solidarity to them and a strong signal to governments and others that we need to change course. To read more, please see the appeal for the action agreed by the EPSU Health and Social Services Standing Committee 8 October. It has been translated in many languages. Please use it in your social media. <https://epsu.org/article/european-health-action-week>

**What you can do**

The pandemic and the spike experienced in many countries make mobilisation difficult. Let us therefore give the demands a big presence on social media. Please distribute the materials among your members and ask for use on social media.

Please find the logos and images for social media and actions [on the EPSU website](#)

Please take a picture with the EPSU logo for the action in solidarity and send it to: Pablo Sanchez 0032 474 626633 (Whatsapp/Telegram) or [cboeckx@epsu.org](mailto:cboeckx@epsu.org) before Tuesday 27 October 9 am.

Please post the picture on your social media. Please use the following hashtags:

**#jointthefightback**  
**#ourhealthisnotforsale**  
**#EU4health4all**

We ask you to please tag the President of the European Parliament's Environment and Public health committee and of the Budget committee (dealing with the funding for the programme Eu4Health) as well as Charles Michel, President of the European Council, and Ursula von der Leyen President of the European Commission.

- Health committee (ENVI) Pascal Canfin @pcanfin
- Budget Committee leading negotiator tag on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/cristi.busoi>
- Charles Michel, @CharlesMichel
- Ursula von der Leyen @vonderleyen

On Tuesday 27th at 10am, a press conference will take place in Brussels. We ask you to share the live stream on your Facebook Pages. If you are able to do so let us know and we will create a Whatsapp and Telegram group to share the link once it goes live. Please send a message (sms/Whatsapp/Telegram) to **Pablo Sanchez 0032 474 626633 before Tuesday 9 am.** (27<sup>th</sup> October) You can also follow the EPSU Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/EPSUnions/>

On Thursday 29th at noon a symbolic action will take place in Brussels. We will webstream the action via Facebook, please help us to broadcast it.

Our Instagram account <https://www.instagram.com/epsunions/> will show photos of the actions and short videos of support to the mobilisation. Please share and contact us by sms/Whatsapp/Telegram to share the images there.

If another hashtag is used in your language for mobilisation just tag us with #EU4health4all.

Thank you for your support and for your solidarity.



Jan Willem Goudriaan  
EPSU General Secretary